

IV. REMARKS

1. Claim 15 is new and is the combination of claims 1 and 6, indicated by the Examiner as being allowable.

A corrected drawing sheet for FIG. 1 is enclosed herewith, adding the legend "PRIOR ART".

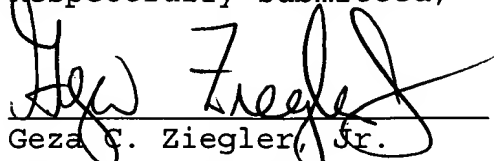
2. With regard to the rejection of claims 9 and 10, it is respectfully submitted that the reference Sunay et al. ("Sunay") is not prior art for purposes of 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

Both Sunay and Applicant's invention are commonly owned. Thus, under 35 U.S.C. §103(c), Sunay is not prior art for purposes of 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

A check in the amount of \$1020 is enclosed for a three-month extension of time. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,


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23 December 2004
Date

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below as first class mail in an envelope addressed to MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: 23 December 2004

Signature: Meaglan Bayle
Person Making Deposit